

REMARKS

The specification has been amended to correct minor grammatical errors and/or to employ more idiomatic English. The abstract has been amended as required by the Examiner. Claims 1-7 also have been amended to correct minor grammatical errors and/or to employ more idiomatic English. No new matter has been entered by any of the foregoing amendments.

Turning to the art rejections, and considering first the rejection of claims 1-4 under 35 USC § 102 as anticipated by Banavong et al. (U.S. Patent 5,640,424), the Examiner's rejection is in error. Claim 1 requires that "noise is suppressed or removed using a sign signal output from said digital filter." Nowhere does Banavong et al. teach an anti-aliasing circuit that uses a sign signal output from a digital filter to suppress noise (Figure 5; Column 7, lines 18-47). Thus, Banavong et al. cannot anticipate or render obvious claim 1 or claims 2-4 which depend directly or indirectly thereon!

Turning to the rejection of claims 5 and 6 under 35 USC § 103 as unpatentable over Banavong et al. in view of Ikeda (U.S. Patent 6,285,768), claims 5 and 6 are directly or indirectly dependent on claim 1. The deficiencies of Banavong et al. have been discussed vis-à-vis claim 1 above. Ikeda et al. does not disclose the missing teaching to Banavong et al. to achieve or render obvious claim 1 or claim 5 and 6 which depend thereon. Nowhere does Ikeda et al. teach an anti-aliasing circuit. Thus, no combination of Banavong et al. or Ideka et al. could achieve or render obvious claim 1 or claims 5 or 6 which depend thereon.

The rejection of claim 7 as obvious over a combination of Banavong et al. in view of Horiike et al. (U.S. Patent 5,548,619) and further in view of de Jaeger (U.S. Patent 4,433,425), likewise is in error. Banavong et al. requires, in part, a digital filter that outputs a sign signal. Neither Horiike nor de Jaeger teach a digital filter that outputs a sign signal as required by

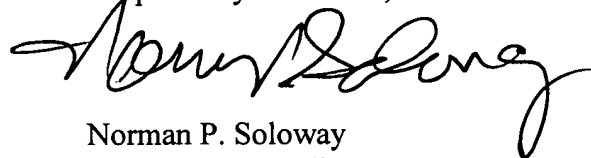
claim 7. Horiike is concerned with a radio receiver that controls the frequency of a local oscillator (Abstract), while de Jaeger is a method and apparatus for training an equalizer (Abstract). Thus, no combination of Banavong et al., Horiike et al. nor de Jaeger et al. could achieve or render obvious Applicant's invention as required by claim 7.

Claims 8-13 have been added to further scope the invention and are allowable for the same reasons above adduced relative to claims 1-7, as well as for their own additional limitations.

Having dealt with all the objections raised by the Examiner, the Application is believed to be in order for allowance. Early and favorable action are respectfully requested.

In the event there are any fee deficiencies or additional fees are payable, please charge them (or credit any overpayment) to our Deposit Account Number 08-1391.

Respectfully submitted,



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